

Support our
projects!
p. 2-3

In portrait:
Maggie Schauer
p. 4



Prof. Dr. Brigitte

Rockstroh is the new Chair of the vivo international board. She was head of the Department of Clinical Psychology at the University of Konstanz and

its psychiatric research unit until October 2018. She answered three questions for us.

When did you become a vivo member?

I became a member shortly after vivo was founded. Unfortunately, my academic duties did not leave enough time to work for vivo as I hoped. I am now ready for the position of Chair of the vivo board, because after retirement I want to get more involved in the refugee and trauma work.

What do you believe is particularly important for an organization like vivo in the coming times?

Board members Dr Brigitte Rockstroh (above), Dr Katy Robjant, Dr Andria Spyridou, Dr Sarah Wilker and Dr Anselm Crombach

Focus on psychological health

vivo is one of the few aid organizations which are active in the countless civil war regions around the world, offering essential, direct mental health support and treatment. vivo must emphasize continuously that the mental health of the victims of war, violence, displacement, and especially of traumatized children demand more attention and support than they have received to this point. In light of the increasing rather than decreasing violence in the world, together with slow-growing political recognition that more must be invested into mental health, vivo faces the challenge of persistently continuing and expanding treatment and dissemination projects wherever possible, and make

them known, both in governmental organizations and in the general public.

What makes you personally want to work on vivo's vision?

I am fully convinced by vivo's humanitarian vision and vivo's activities. Moreover, my engagement is driven by mounting despair in view of current political developments. I see the necessity to take on responsibility as a member of society and would like - not least quite pragmatically - to comply with the request to support a multi-faceted organization like vivo with my organizational experiences.



vivo's betterplace projects

Overcoming cultural and linguistic barriers

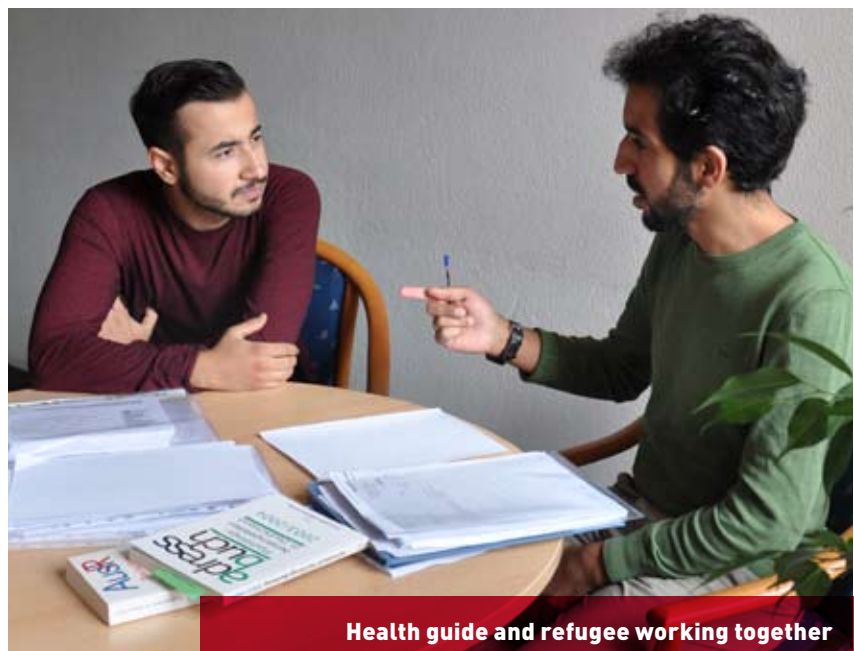
Germany

The psychological stress of refugees (e.g. as a result of trauma during escape and in the country of origin) severely hampers integration in Germany. Access to standard psychotherapeutic care is currently virtually impossible due to the lack of cost coverage for translation and cultural barriers. Our pilot project in the district of Constance is developing the care system further and aims to reduce barriers. The key to this, in addition



to language mediators and culturally sensitive case management, are trained peers who have a cultural mediating and bridging function as health guides. Currently, six health guides and ten language mediators work closely together with more than 15 therapists to facilitate examinations and therapies for refugees. In

addition, vivo supports them through a coordination office and offers regular supervision and further training. With the help of donations, vivo will be able to continue this successful project next year.



Support vivo's projects at
 betterplace!

[www.betterplace.org/de/
organisations/14285-vivo-
international](http://www.betterplace.org/de/organisations/14285-vivo-international)



Health guide and refugee working together

A Center for Psychotraumatology



Project member talking to children

Burundi

Kira Agahinda, the Center for Psychotraumatology was founded by vivo international and Psychologues sans Frontières Burundi with the aim to offer psychotherapeutic support to those who are affected by the ongoing political and domestic violence as well

as poverty. In recent years, the team at the Center for Psychotraumatology has primarily worked with street children and their families. The project, “Ibarbara ntirirera – The street does not educate” aims to strengthen existing family structures and to of-

fer a secure environment to children who spend their days in the streets of Bujumbura or were sent there to work. The project also seeks to provide access to education and to prevent the ultimate separation from the family. A particularly important aspect of the project is the psychological support provided to the youth and their families, with the aim to reduce trauma disorders and child maltreatment within the family. In order to make the work of our local staff possible and to provide insurance benefits we are seeking donations to finance part of the urgently needed funds for the premises and salaries of our employees.

A person of trust for burdened children

Tanzania

Almost 1000 children attend a primary school in Southern Tanzania, among them many orphans. Many children, particularly orphans, suffer from the loss of one or both parents, from neglect and physical punishment. Their academic performance is also influenced by the difficult living conditions and psychological adversities they face. To support these children, vivo created the position of a school counselor in 2012 together with the school and its German partner diocese. For some years school counselor Hilder Humphrey has been taking

care of the children in a committed and trusting way, and has closely collaborated with teachers, parents and caregivers in aiming to provide targeted help for burdened children. She also has been offering individual and group counseling for all children, while providing particular attention to orphans. vivo covers the school counselor’s salary and work material in collaboration with the school and the German partner diocese. With the help of donations vivo can continue the psychological support for the children.

The school counselor playing together with children at the school compound



Practicing non-violent discipline strategies in role-plays



Good care for orphans

Tanzania

Tanzania is one of the countries in the world with particularly many orphans. Many of them live in orphanages. Unfortunately, the quality of care often is very low. In addition to providing for basic needs (e.g. food and medical care), a sensitive and non-violent upbringing is crucial for the healthy mental and physical development of children. With the help of donations vivo aims to educate 150

caregivers in 23 Tanzanian orphanages using the preventive approach **Interaction competencies with children – for caregivers in sensitive and**

non-violent care. With this training approach vivo can considerably improve the quality of life for more than 1200 children.



Wholeheartedly committed:

Maggie Schauer

For founding vivo member PD Dr Maggie Schauer, vivo's mission is a matter near and dear to her heart. Maggie is not only an internationally-renowned expert for psychological trauma, an excellent scientist, and co-developer of Narrative Exposure Therapy, she was also active on the vivo board for many years. It is very important for her that vivo continues to be a voice for traumatized refugees,

for people in regions afflicted by war and crisis, for disadvantaged women and children. With the aim of moving scientific evidence on trauma and violence and treatment approaches more prominently into the public eye, she is constantly engaged in dialog with media, politicians, and the general public. Even after many years of work with people in crisis in various countries, she still sees every single

person with their life stories, sympathizes with them, and accompanies them on the therapeutic journey through the most intense anxiety. Maggie Schauer has many more ideas for vivo's future. With her affectionate and emphatic manner, she successfully brings many people to move in support of vivo's vision.

Donations

vivo international e.V. is recognized as a non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible in GER

Bank: Sparkasse Bodensee

IBAN: DE21 6905 0001 0000 0859 85

BIC: SOLADES1 KNZ

Imprint

vivo international e.V.

PO box 5108 · 78430 Konstanz · Germany · phone: +49 75 31 88 46 23

Editorial office: Dr Katharin Hermenau and Heike Riedke

Photos: vivo international e.V.

Design: www.artur.eu

www.vivo.org